

HAMTC members reject new contracts

Members of the Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council, the umbrella organization for Hanford-related unions, voted on April 30 to reject proposed contracts with Fluor Hanford, Bechtel Hanford, CH2M HILL Hanford Group and Battelle, operator of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. The balloting came just four days after members held a rally in John Dam Plaza in Richland, urging a “no” vote on the contract proposal.

The proposed contract called for a 4-percent pay increase for workers. However, opponents of contract ratification cited a proposed increase in medical insurance payments and other changes in the medical benefits program as reasons for rejecting the contract.

Until the contracts are renegotiated and a new proposal is ratified, HAMTC members will continue to work under terms of the expired contracts. ■